GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3208
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2001
GANGA ACTION PLAN
SUKENDER REDDY GUTHA

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National River Authority has considered the recommendations of Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam and that of Varanasi Nagar Nigam for Ganga Action Plan (GAP)-II with the help of international support;

(b) if so, the decision taken in this regard;

(c) time by which work on GAP-II is likely to commence and to be completed; and

(d) the total amount to be spent on GAP-II ?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) & (b) The Government has received two separate proposals for Ganga Action Plan Phase-II works for cleaning of Ganga at Varanasi, one from Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam and the other from Sankat Mochan Foundation, a non-governmental organization of Varanasi. Varanasi Nagar Nigam sent both the proposals to Government of Uttar Pradeshfor their appraisal and forwarding the most appropriate proposal to Government. The Government of Uttar Pradesh after examining both proposals on their merit, forwarded the Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam proposal to Government for consideration and sanction.Both these proposals have been examined by a number of technical experts and committees during the past four years. These proposals were further considered by Government at a high level meeting on 13th July, 2001. The Government, after hearing and considering all the views and after taking into account all the relevant details has decided that the proposal of Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam is a more practical and feasible option, which has been finally selected for implementation.

(c) & (d) The Ganga Action Plan Phase-II was approved for implementation in stages between 1993 and 1996 and includes works for pollution abatement of river Ganga as well as its tributaries, Yamuna, Gomti and Damodar. The Plan is already under implementation and scheduled for completion by December, 2005. The total approved cost for Ganga Action Plan Phase-II is Rs.1498.86 crore.